

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 536

By Odom

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ophelia M. Thomas of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ophelia M. Thomas; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Thomas was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, she served with acumen and alacrity for many years in the Housekeeping Department at St. Thomas Hospital, in which she earned the respect of her peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of her work; after she retired from the hospital, she continued to clean houses and to care for the elderly; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Thomas will be most remembered for her kindness and generosity; she never thought about her own well-being if someone else needed help, and she always did for others before doing for herself; and

WHEREAS, she was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Thomas enjoyed the loving companionship and was the proud parent of Linda Barnes, Collier C. Thomas, Patricia J. McPherson, Reverend Martha Thomas-Jones, Barbara D. Mills, Mike W. Thomas, Rebecca Schneider, Terrie A. Perkins, and James W. Thomas; and

WHEREAS, she joins her husband, James Clyde Thomas, Jr., her daughters, Diane Thomas Jones and Deborah Thomas, and her foster son, Alex Joseph "Sparky" Sparks, in their great reward; and

WHEREAS, Ophelia M. Thomas leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ophelia M. Thomas, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Thomas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.